

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-31 are pending.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 due to the claim lacking antecedent basis for some of the terms. Applicants have amended claim 1 to address the issue. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-6, 10-11, 14-16, 20-21, 24-26, and 30-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,826,220 (Takeda).

Takeda discloses subject matter in which translation word candidates complying with lexical rules determined through context and semantic analysis are presented by the operator by reading out from a dictionary. The operator selects the most appropriate translation word. The selected translation word, a headword corresponding thereto, and the translation word stored at the top of the applied lexical rules, are correlated and stored and in a subsequent translation, when the translation word corresponding to the headword agrees with the first translation word corresponding to the lexical rules, it is replaced by the selected translation word stored in correlation.

According to Takeda, original sentences in a first language are translated into sentences in a second language by obtaining a translation word for each original word according to a translation dictionary storing headwords in the first language, a plurality of lexical rules for each headword, and at least one candidate translation word in the second language corresponding to each lexical rule, and learning a change of a translation word for one headword from a top candidate translation word obtained at the translating step according to one lexical rule in the translation dictionary to another translation word specified by a user. See Takeda, column 3, lines 6-19.

Basically, the present invention includes a translation supporting apparatus comprising:

- an interface unit which issues input and output instructions regarding an input of a translation target document, an output of a translated document, and a translation control;

- a machine translating apparatus which translates a document in a certain language into a document in another language;

- an original/translation database in which original/translation information has been accumulated;

- a translation memory device which supports work for translating a document in a certain

language into a document in another language by searching the original/translation database;
and

a data compatible processing unit which makes the original/translation information translated by the machine translating apparatus and the original/translation information translated by the translation memory device common and enables that information to be mutually fetched as original/translation information.

Thus, the original/translation information obtained by the machine translating apparatus is reflected to the search database which is used by the translation memory device and, at the same time, the original/translation information accumulated in the search database of the translation memory device is reflected to the dictionary of the machine translating apparatus. Since each piece of original/translation information can be used as common resources, the automatization of the translating work is further progressed. The improvement of the working efficiency and the translation quality is expected.

In the Office Action, the Examiner holds that claims 2-3, 12-13, 17, 19, 22-23, and 27-29 will be allowed if they are amended to independent form. According to our analysis of the relationship between the newly cited references and the present invention, Takeda discloses subject matter in which translation word candidates complying with lexical rules determined through syntax and semantic analysis are presented to the operator by reading out from a dictionary. The operator selects the most appropriate translation word. The selected translation word, a headword corresponding thereto, and the translation word stored at the top of the applied lexical rules are correlated and stored; and in a subsequent translation, when the translation word corresponding to the headword agrees with the first translation word corresponding to the lexical rules, it is replaced by the selected translation word stored in correlation.

Applicants respectfully submit that Takeda discloses nothing about the subject matter of the present invention in that:

(1) Takeda does not assume that the system has a translation memory device which supports work for translating a document in a certain language into a document in another language by searching the machine translation apparatus and the original/translation database;

(2) At least one of the features of the present invention, for example, making common the original/translation information translated by the machine translating apparatus and the original/translation information translated by the translation memory device, and enabling those pieces of information to be mutually fetched as original/translation information is not disclosed in

Takeda; and

(3) The machine translating apparatus and the original translation information of the original/translation database can be used as common resources. Automatization of the translating work is thus further progressed, and the improvement of the working efficiency and the translation quality is expected. This subject matter of the present invention is not disclosed in Takeda.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 11, 21, and 31 are patentable over Takeda, as Takeda does not teach the above-identified feature of the claims.

As dependent claims 4-6, 10, 14-16, 20, 24-26, and 30 depend from respective independent claims, the dependent claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented above.

On page 7 of the Office Action, claims 8, 18, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,345,245 (Sugiyama).

Sugiyama discloses a method that is based on a system having a common dictionary management portion and a local dictionary management portion. The dictionary data is updated in any of a plurality of local dictionaries and time information updated in local dictionaries of the updated dictionary data are collected. A common dictionary storing dictionary data of local dictionaries is updated on the basis of the collected dictionary data and the update time information in local dictionaries. The final time information when dictionary data are distributed to the local dictionaries is compared with the update time information of the dictionary data in the local dictionaries; and dictionary data of the common dictionary selected on the basis of the result of comparison are distributed to local dictionaries satisfying predetermined conditions.

Sugiyama further discloses updating a plurality of dictionaries, which is different than the subject matter recited in claims 8, 12, and 28 pointed out by the Examiner (recite display of the gist of the document to be translated prior to translation).

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Takeda does not disclose extracting as identified by the language of claim 1, for example. Applicants respectfully submit that Takeda also does not suggest the feature, as simply adding information to a dictionary by inputting the information is completely unrelated and different than adding extracted information.

Although Sugiyama discloses updating a dictionary, in Sugiyama, the dictionaries are updated by simply sending information from one local dictionary to another dictionary. Therefore, Sugiyama does not teach or suggest the extraction feature, as identified by the

language of independent claim 1, for example.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8, 18, and 28, via independent claims 1, 11, and 21, respectively, are patentable over the references, as neither Takeda nor Sugiyama, taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests, "said data compatible processing unit extracts the original/translation words or original/translation patterns from said analyzed original/translation sentences, and adds them into a dictionary of said machine translating apparatus."

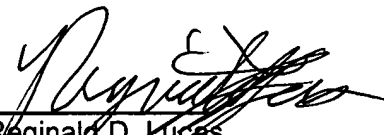
It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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